1 2	THOMAS C. STERLING KLEMM, BLAIR, STERLING & JOHNSON A Professional Corporation					
3	1008 Pacific News Building 238 Archbishop F.C. Flores Street					
4	Hagåtña 96910-5205, Guam Phone: (671) 477-7857	FILED				
5	Fax: (671) 472-4290	DISTRICT COURT OF GUAM				
6	Attorneys for Defendant Metropolitan Life Insurance Com	opany OCT 2 0 2005				
7		MARY L.M. MORAN				
8	IN THE UNITED STATES CLERK OF COURT					
9	DISTRICT COU	JRT OF GUAM				
10	CESS NAVARRO OLMO, RONNIE	CIVIL CASE NO.: CV05-00025				
11	PASCUAL FERRERAS,)) ANGWEDG AND DEFENDED OF				
12	Plaintiffs,	ANSWERS AND DEFENSES OF METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY TO BLAINTIES? FIRST				
13	VS.) COMPANY TO PLAINTIFFS' FIRST) AMENDED COMPLAINT AND TO) CROSS-CLAIMS OF ANY AND ALL				
14	A.P. GREEN INDUSTRIES, INC., et al.	OTHER DEFENDANTS AND THIRD- PARTY DEFENDANTS				
15	Defendants.) TAKII DEFENDANIS				
16)				
17 18	Comes now Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("Metropolitan Life"), one of					
19	the Defendants in the above-styled and numbered cause, by and through counsel, and answers					
20	the Plaintiffs' First Amended Complaint ("Complaint") and each and every Cross-Claim filed					
21	hereafter by any other Defendant or Third-Party Defendant as follows:					
22	1. The allegations contained in paragraph 1 of the Complaint are					
23						
24	conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent they may be deemed					
25	allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them.					
26	2. Metropolitan Life is without	out knowledge or information sufficient to form				
27 28	a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the Complaint.					

- 3. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the Complaint, including all of its subparts, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, except that Metropolitan Life admits that it is a life insurance company of the State of New York. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 3 of the Complaint, including all of its subparts, to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 4. The allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them.
- 5. The allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them.
- 6. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 7. The allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them.
- 8. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 8 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.

- 9. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in the first two sentences of paragraph 9 of the Complaint. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in the remainder of paragraph 9 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in the remainder of paragraph 9 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 10. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 10 of the Complaint.
- 11. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 11 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 11 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 12. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 12 of the Complaint.
- 13. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 13 of the Complaint.
- 14. The allegations contained in paragraph 14 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, and is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to their truth to the extent said allegations relate to others.

AS TO THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 15. The allegations contained in paragraph 15 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, and is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to their truth to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 16. The allegations contained in paragraph 16 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.
- 17. The allegations contained in paragraph 17 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.
- 18. The allegations contained in paragraph 18 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.

AS TO THE SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 19. Metropolitan Life reasserts and incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 14 of the Complaint, inclusive, as though fully set forth herein in response to paragraph 19 of the Complaint.
- 20. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 20 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life

is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 20 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.

- 21. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 21 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 21 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 22. The allegations contained in paragraph 22 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, and is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to their truth to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 23. The allegations contained in paragraph 23 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.
- 24. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 24 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 24 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 25. The allegations contained in paragraph 25 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed

allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.

AS TO THE THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

- 26. Metropolitan Life reasserts and incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 14 of the Complaint, inclusive, as though fully set forth herein in response to paragraph 26 of the Complaint.
- 27. The allegations contained in paragraph 27 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, and is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to their truth to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 28. The allegations contained in paragraph 28 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, and is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to their truth to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 29. The allegations contained in paragraph 29 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.

AS TO THE FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

30. Metropolitan Life reasserts and incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 14 of the Complaint, inclusive, as though fully set forth herein in response to paragraph 30 of the Complaint.

- 31. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 31 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 31 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 32. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 32 of the Complaint.
- 33. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 33 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 33 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 34. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 34 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 34 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 35. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 35 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 35 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 36. The allegations contained in paragraph 36 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.

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AS TO THE FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 37. Metropolitan Life reasserts and incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 14 of the Complaint, inclusive, as though fully set forth herein in response to paragraph 37 of the Complaint.
- 38. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 38 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 38 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 39. The allegations contained in paragraph 39 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life, and is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to their truth to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 40. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 40 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 40 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 41. The allegations contained in paragraph 41 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.

AS TO THE SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- Metropolitan Life reasserts and incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 14 of the Complaint, inclusive, as though fully set forth herein in response
- Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 43 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.

AS TO THE SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- Metropolitan Life reasserts and incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 14 of the Complaint, inclusive, as though fully set forth herein in response
- Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 45 of the
- Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 46 of the
- Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 47 of the
- Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 48 of the

AS TO THE EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

Metropolitan Life reasserts and incorporates by reference its responses to paragraphs 1 through 14 of the Complaint, inclusive, as though fully set forth herein in response to paragraph 49 of the Complaint.

- 50. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 50 of the Complaint, insofar as the allegations are directed against Metropolitan Life. Metropolitan Life is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 50 of the Complaint to the extent said allegations relate to others.
- 51. Metropolitan Life denies the allegations contained in paragraph 51 of the Complaint, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.
- 52. The allegations contained in paragraph 52 of the Complaint are conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.
- 53. The first unnumbered paragraph following paragraph 52 of the Complaint, including all of its subparts, contains prayer for relief and conclusions of law, for which no response is required; to the extent that they are deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them, and it denies that it is liable to the Plaintiffs or anyone else for any amount.
- 54. The allegations contained in the second unnumbered paragraph following paragraph 52 of the Complaint are Plaintiffs' characterization of their case and demand for a trial by jury, for which no response is required; to the extent they may be deemed allegations of fact, Metropolitan Life denies them.
 - 55. All allegations not specifically admitted above are hereby denied.

FIRST DEFENSE

The allegations of the Complaint and each Count thereof fail to state a claim against Metropolitan Life upon which relief can be granted.

TENTH DEFENSE

At all times relevant hereto, the knowledge of Plaintiffs' employers was superior to that of Metropolitan Life with respect to possible health hazards associated with Plaintiffs' employment, and therefore, if there was any duty to warn Plaintiffs or provide protection to them, it was the duty of said employers, not of Metropolitan Life, and breach of that duty was an intervening and/or superseding cause of the injuries alleged by Plaintiffs.

ELEVENTH DEFENSE

In the event that it be shown that Plaintiffs used any product or material, as alleged in the Complaint, which gave rise to the injuries as set forth therein, the same was misused, abused, modified, altered, or subjected to abnormal use.

TWELFTH DEFENSE

Plaintiffs and their employers were sophisticated users of products containing asbestos and had adequate knowledge of the dangers and risks associated with using or working around asbestos.

THIRTEENTH DEFENSE

The claims in the Complaint and each Count thereof that seek an award of exemplary or punitive damages fail to state a claim against Metropolitan Life upon which relief can be granted.

FOURTEENTH DEFENSE

The claims in the Complaint and each Count thereof that seek exemplary or punitive damages violate Metropolitan Life's right to procedural due process as provided in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution and Article I, Sections 1 and 5, and all other applicable provisions, of the Organic Act of Guam.

FIFTEENTH DEFENSE

The claims in the Complaint and each Count thereof that seek exemplary or punitive damages violate Metropolitan Life's right to procedural substantive due process as provided in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution and Article I, Sections 1 and 5, and all other applicable provisions, of the Organic Act of Guam.

SIXTEENTH DEFENSE

The claims in the Complaint and each Count thereof that seek exemplary or punitive damages violate Metropolitan Life's right to equal protection under the law and are otherwise unconstitutional under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Sections 1 and 6, and all other applicable provisions, of the Organic Act of Guam.

SEVENTEENTH DEFENSE

The claims in the Complaint and each Count thereof that seek exemplary or punitive damages violate Metropolitan Life's right to protection from "excessive fines" as provided for in the United States Constitution and the Organic Act of Guam.

EIGHTEENTH DEFENSE

The actions of Metropolitan Life were within its rights under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and the Organic Act of Guam and are fully protected thereby.

NINETEENTH DEFENSE

Plaintiffs should have taken action to minimize or eliminate damages, and therefore Plaintiffs are precluded from recovering damages, or their damages are reduced, by operation of the doctrine of avoidable consequences.

TWENTIETH DEFENSE

Metropolitan Life did not authorize, approve, or ratify the acts or omissions attributed to it in the Complaint.

TWENTY-FIRST DEFENSE

Metropolitan Life states that it cannot be held liable as a matter of law for injuries or damages allegedly sustained as a result of exposure to asbestos-containing products allegedly used by or near the Plaintiffs, to the extent such exposure was to asbestos-containing products manufactured and distributed by others pursuant to and in strict conformity with specific regulations and specifications set forth by the United States Government. Metropolitan Life avers further that all times relevant to the allegations contained in the Complaint, the products allegedly containing asbestos substantially conformed to those specifications set forth and approved by the United States Government, and the United States Government had actual knowledge of the hazards, if any, associated with exposure to asbestos.

TWENTY-SECOND DEFENSE

Metropolitan Life is entitled to a set-off or credit in the amount of any settlement or compromise heretofore or hereafter reached by Plaintiffs with any other person for any of Plaintiffs' alleged damages.

TWENTY-THIRD DEFENSE

The Complaint should be dismissed pursuant to Rule 9 (b) of the Rules of Civil Procedure.

TWENTY-FOURTH DEFENSE

Metropolitan Life would show unto the Court that multiple awards of punitive damages against it would violate the Organic Act of Guam; and the prohibition against being

twice placed in jeopardy for the same offense embodied in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.

TWENTY-FIFTH DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' alleged injuries and damages, if any, were proximately caused by or contributed by the exposure or inhalation of noxious and deleterious fumes and residues from industrial products or by-products prevalent on his job sites, by the cumulative effects of exposure to all types of environmental and industrial pollutants of air and water, or by substances, products, or other causes not attributable to or connected with Metropolitan Life.

TWENTY-SIXTH DEFENSE

The Complaint fails to name both necessary and indispensable parties in whose absence complete relief cannot be accorded among those already parties. Therefore, this action must be dismissed, or alternatively, the action should be stayed pending other appropriate relief by the Court.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DEFENSE

Defendant Metropolitan Life would show unto the Court that the events which allegedly form the basis for the Plaintiffs' alleged causes of action against Metropolitan Life arose prior to the elimination of the common law privity requirement in negligence and strict liability actions. As such, the Plaintiffs are subject to the common law requirement that they be in privity with Defendant Metropolitan Life. Inasmuch as no such privity existed, Metropolitan Life is not a proper party to this action.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DEFENSE

The claims of Plaintiffs' spouses are barred by Plaintiffs' contributory and/or comparative negligence and/or assumption of risk and/or any other defense asserted herein.

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1	(d) The Court grant such other and further relief as may be just, proper,
2	and equitable; and
3 4	(e) Metropolitan Life requests a trial by jury.
5	
6	KLEMM, BLAIR, STERLING & JOHNSON A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
7	
8	DATED: OCTOBER 19, 2005 BY: MV (500)
9	THOMAS C. STERLING Attorneys for Defendant Metropolitan Life Insurance
10	Company
11	E62\48841-04
12	G:\WORD97\OFFICE\WORDDOC\PLD\TCS\256-ANSWERS AND DEFENSES OF METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE RE OLMO ET AL V A P GREEN INDUSTRIES INC ET AL DOC
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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE				
2	I, THOMAS C. STERLING, hereby certify that on October 20, 2005, I will cause to be served,				
3	via hand delivery, a true and correct copy of the ANSWERS AND DEFENSES OF METROPOLITAN				
4					
5	LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY TO PLAINTIFFS' FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT AND TO CROSS-				
6	CLAIMS OF ANY AND ALL OTHER DEFENDANTS AND THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANTS upon the				
7	following counsel of record, addressed as follows:				
8	John S. Unpingco, Esq.				
9	LUJAN, UNPINGCO, AGUIGUI & PEREZ, LLP				
10	Suite 300 Pacific News Building 238 Archbishop Flores Street				
11	Hagåtña, Guam 96910				
12	David W. Dooley, Esq.				
13	DOOLEY ROBERTS & FOWLER LLP				
14	Attorneys at Law Suite 201, Orlean Pacific Plaza				
	865 South Marine Corps Drive				
15	Tamuning, Guam 96913				
16	Anita P. Arriola, Esq.				
17	ARRIOLA, COWAN & ARRIOLA Suite 201, C&A Professional Building				
18	259 Martyr Street				
19	Hagåtña, Guam 96910				
20	John B. Maher, Esq.				
21	MAHER · YANZA · FLYNN · TIMBLIN, LLP 115 Hesler Place, Ground Floor				
22	Governor Joseph Flores Building				
	Hagåtña, Guam 96910-5004				
23	Dated this 20th day of October, 2005.				
24					
25					
26	MAR				
27	THOMAS C. STERLING				
28					